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United States Coast Guard

MEDIA RELEASE

United States Coast Guard
Marine Safety Office Detroit
Contact: LCDR ED HIGGINS
<http://www.uscg.mil/msodetroit>

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Phone: 313-568-9504
Fax: 313-568-9581
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New Port Security Grants Made Available

DETROIT, Michigan -- On Tuesday, January 14, 2003, the Department of Transportation along with the Coast Guard announced an additional \$105 million for Port Security Grants and \$28 million for pilot programs for port security.

The Coast Guard is committed to further securing our nations waterways. These grant programs will help identify critical infrastructure, provide security training, harden our seaports, and increase security at our port facilities. The Port Security Grants program includes grants for security assessments and strategies for mitigating vulnerabilities and for enhancing cargo and passenger security and access control. Additional funds will be announced in the near future for port incident training to enhance prevention and response preparedness for countering terrorist incidents.

So far, more than \$92 million in Port Security Grants have been distributed to 51 U.S. ports since June 2002. Locally, the Detroit Windsor Truck Ferry Inc. received a grant for a pilot system for the automation of the pre-arrival reporting of inbound and outbound shipments of hazardous material cargo on trucks carried on the company's truck ferry operations between Detroit and Windsor.

All applications for grants are to be submitted to www.portsecuritygrants.dotts.a.net. An announcement providing details about the program is published at the same site. Applications must be submitted by February 27, 2003 and grants should be made in May 2003. A selection board composed of representatives from Transportation Security Administration, U.S. Coast Guard and the Maritime Administration (MARAD) will review all Port Security Grant applications.